

# Nimble Fingers Newsletter

www.nimblefingers.org

**March/April 2011**

Officers 2010-2011

Co-Presidents: Linda August  
and Patty Estey

Vice President: Pat Lefevre

Secretary: Evelyn Farinas

Treasurer: Barbara Kilby

*Est. 1974 = 37 YEARS OF FELLOWSHIP  
National Quilting Association Chapter #MD019*

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## Co-Presidents' Message – Linda August and Patty Estey

As this letter is being written, there are 35 days until spring! Who isn't ready for some warm, sunny days? Spring also marks the beginning of many quilt shows - always an inspiration and a chance to re-group with quilting friends. As members of Nimble Fingers, we are fortunate to have many talented quilters. The amazing variety and quality of quilts are displayed monthly during "show-and-tell." There are so many innovative ideas for our own quilts.

We hope you found the presentations made at the past two meetings to be both informative and helpful as we set sail for the organization's future. The quilt show remains of interest and supported by members. It certainly provides an opportunity for each of us to share our work.

And, speaking of a quilt show, we are asking for one (or more) members step up and volunteer to chair the 2012 quilt show. There is a wealth of experienced members who are willing to help: We just need leadership to start the engine. There were two people who completed the recent questionnaire who said they were willing to chair the show. We hope you are both still willing and will call one of us (Linda or Patty).

The guild is also in need of a hospitality chairperson - or co-chairs. The job involves ordering and picking up sub-sandwiches, handling the money, recruiting members to set-up the lunch, clean-up, and provide dessert and beverages. Please consider volunteering for what has become a unique highlight of Nimble Fingers meetings.

As you know, we solicited the membership to see which charities should receive a \$500 donation from the proceeds of the quilt show. At the February meeting the members voted on the recommendations. We are delighted to announce that Habitat for Humanity and the Manna Food Center had the most votes. Thank you for your participation.

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## Programs – Susan Sellers, Carol Clanton, Cheryl Layman, Nancy Rose Opeka, Jill Ruspi, Julie Taylor

**March 2, 2011: Sue Reno** will share her technique of cyanotype printing with us in her lecture. Examples of her gorgeous work using this method of printing on fabric can be found on her web site at [www.suereno.com](http://www.suereno.com).

**April 6, 2011: Mary Stori** will entertain us in her lecture “Let It Shine”, as she discusses the ways that bead embellishment can enhance fabric with texture, color, reflection, and visual interest. Her afternoon workshop from 1-4 PM is “Decorative Beading Techniques” at a cost of \$35 for members plus a \$6 kit fee. Students will create a reference sampler as they learn eye-catching decorative techniques such as: the basic bead stitch, bead appliqué, picot stitch, chain stitch, branched fringe, netting, bugle bead walls, bead embroidery, and more. Visit [www.marystori.com](http://www.marystori.com) for more information.

**May 4, 2011: Maria Elkins**, founder of the web site [www.lostquilt.com](http://www.lostquilt.com) will join us to discuss “Protecting Quilts.”

**Nimble Fingers “Inspired by Verse” Challenge** quilts will be due at this meeting. Each member can enter a quilt inspired by a favorite poem, or write a poem inspired by a quilt. Quilts will be displayed and judged during the May meeting.

**May 5, 2011: “Fused Applique Portraits”** workshop with Maria Elkins, 11 AM- 5 PM, Fee for members \$50 plus \$15 kit fee. Maria shares her method of manipulating digital photos to create beautiful quilts. Using your photograph, she will prepare a pattern for each student, and during the full day class you will cut out, fuse, and quilt your portrait during class.

**June 1, 2011: Cindy Blackberg** will talk about her quilting secrets in “Sneaky Tips and Tricks of the Pros.” Her web site shows more of her award winning quilts at [www.cindyblackberg.com](http://www.cindyblackberg.com).

**Nimble Fingers Block of the Year Show and Tell:** When we declared a split nine patch pattern our “block of the year” who knew that local shops and quilting groups would follow our lead. We hope that you have been busy sewing your split nine patch blocks through this year. Bring yours for a special show and tell in June.

**Mystery Quilt Show and Tell:** Please bring your quilts from Kim’s mystery quilt workshop from this past January. Pieced tops and/or finished quilts welcome - it’s fun to see all the different results from one class!

**June 2, 2011: “Mountain Blossoms”** workshop with Cindy Blackberg, 11 AM – 5 PM, \$50 per member. This is your chance to improve your hand quilting skills as you work on this beautiful hand stitched block.

Contact Susan Sellers for more information or to register for a workshop.

### **Workshop Refund Policy Update**

The Nimble Fingers Executive Board reviewed the recent policy that was passed concerning workshop refunds at their January meeting. The board reaffirmed their commitment to the policy as detailed in the previous newsletter. A clarification was added to define “medical emergency” as an event that has happened within the last few days. For further information, contact Susan Sellers, program chair.

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## **Hospitality – Carole Auth, Karen Cyr, Nancy Sharp**

**MARCH 2** -- Our special menu will include homemade soups and baked potatoes, with several toppings available. We ask hostesses to provide dessert and 2 liters of drinks, and to also arrive early (9:15-9:30) to help with set-up of tables and supplies, and also stay to assist with clean-up. Cost of luncheon will be \$4.00.

Because we did not have a February luncheon we canceled the February volunteer hostesses and have re-assigned those to either March or April. If this re-assignment does not work for you, please call / email Nancy Sharp and we can make a switch.

**MARCH HOSTESSES:** Jean Porto, Laurie Bay, Karen Smith, Donna Duce, Donna Kopp, Burt White, Nancy Rose Opeka

**APRIL 6** -- Our menu will be Deli sandwiches and salads for the cost of \$4.00. Again we ask hostesses to provide dessert and 2 liters of drinks. Also, we ask that hostesses arrive early (9:15-9:30) to help with set-up of tables and supplies, and also stay to assist with clean-up. The work goes quickly when many hands work together.

**APRIL HOSTESSES:** Diane Heller, Rainie Broad, Joan Winovich, Flo Warmack, Celine Kobak, Trudy Strobel, Maryanne Culliton

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## **Quilting for Others – Margaret Natof, Mary Moore Payne**

We have two quilts ready to go to the Women and Children’s Shelter which Quilting for Others supports. Giving quilts as they are created allows new residents to receive a quilt when they come to the shelter. Remember that the need is year round, so keep those quilts coming.

There will be kits at the meetings to take home. We welcome toppers and finishers. There is a job for every skill. You may make the top, sandwich the quilt, machine quilt, bind or any portion of the job.

Thank you to all the members who signed up to make quilts, machine quilt, and bind. Two of our members who have long arm machines are working on larger quilts.

The support of the Nimble Fingers members means there will be residents of the shelter who know that people care about them.

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## Membership – Mila Haberman, Mary Jo Haczewski, Liz Brigham

New Members:

Mary Ellen Luensman  
Winnie McCarraher  
Jeanne Swartz

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## Quilting Bee – Mary Campbell

Next scheduled dates are March 17 and April 21. Any changes will be announced as available by broadcast e-mail, and at the monthly meetings.

Our Bee Location: Habitat for Humanity, 9110 Gaither Rd. in Gaithersburg (past Capital Quilts, on the left), beginning around 10 and continuing until 12:30.

Questions: Contact Mary Campbell.

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## Library – Chris Ritcher

All the books in the Nimble Fingers library were scanned. The whole library is now available for browsing at meetings. Just let me know which book you'd like to borrow and I'll bring it to the following meeting.

Our speaker last month, Eleanor Levie, has donated a book to our library "American History." It's a quick read and full of interesting facts about quilting in the last 40 years. It is filled with pictures of beautiful quilts. Great inspiration for future projects!

To keep a library that reflects what our members want, your suggestions for new titles or subjects is greatly appreciated. And if you have books you are not using anymore and would like to share with the membership, you can donate them to the Nimble Fingers library. Nimble Fingers is now a 501(c)3 organization and can issue receipts for your donations whether they are books or monetary donations.

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## Mini Groups – Jane Oden

The Guild would like to organize a list of members interested in being part of a mini-group.

Mini-groups are a way for individuals to form closer relationships with fellow quilters, and also to learn more quilting skills and techniques. Because mini-groups are not guild-sponsored activities, each group makes its own decisions about how often, when, and where to meet.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the March and April monthly meeting. Please sign up if you are interested. You will be contacted when enough members (3-6) who want to meet on the same day of the week add their names to the list.

For more information or to sign up, please contact Jane Oden.

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## Current Events – Ann Plunkett

**January 1- December 31** Exhibit: Women of the Civil War Era - Their Quilts and Their Stories. Also Sewing Machine Collection. 301 S. Main St. Harrisonburg VA.  
[www.vaquiltmuseum.org](http://www.vaquiltmuseum.org).

**February 1 - May 14** Exhibit: Jinny Beyer: Kaleidoscope of Quilts 301 S. Main St. Harrisonburg VA. [www.vaquiltmuseum.org](http://www.vaquiltmuseum.org).

**March 12-13** Quilt Expo 2011 1021 Dulaney Valley Rd. Towson MD.  
[www.Baltimorequilters.com](http://www.Baltimorequilters.com)

**March 12-13** 2011 Quilt Show 10624 Dumfries Rd, Manassas VA.  
[www.cabinbranchquilters.org](http://www.cabinbranchquilters.org)

**March 16-19** AQS Quilt Show & Contest, Lancaster PA. Lancaster Co. Convention Center  
[www.AmericanQuilter.com](http://www.AmericanQuilter.com)

**March 19 is National Quilting Day!**

**March 25-30** Infinite Variety: Three Centuries of Red and White Quilts, American Folk Art Museum, New York, NY [www.folkartmuseum.org/index.php?p=folk&id=7262](http://www.folkartmuseum.org/index.php?p=folk&id=7262)

**March 26-27** Southern Comforters Quilt Show. "Fans of Friendship", 15542 Peach Walker Drive, Bowie MD. [www.southerncomforters.org](http://www.southerncomforters.org).

**April 27–30** AQS Quilt Show & Contest, Paducah Expo Center, Paducah, KY  
[www.AmericanQuilter.com](http://www.AmericanQuilter.com)

**April 28-30** Milltown Quilters Quilt Show, 9325 Presbyterian Circle, Columbia MD.  
www.milltownquilters.com.

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## Member News

Congratulations to **Patty Estey!** Two of her quilts, "Bees Knees" & "When is Enough - Enough", were juried into the Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival XXII (Feb 24-27) in Hampton, VA.

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Congratulations are also due to **Bobbie Korengold**, too! Her quilt "Sew is Life" is a semi-finalist at the March 16-19 AQS quilt show in Lancaster, PA.

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Included in the March exhibition at BlackRock Center (see details above) are quilts made by our members **Betty Ford, Anne Datko, Elke Jordan, Sue Walen, Albert Feldman and Ruan Robertson.**

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**Sue Walen** invites members to visit her blogsite: new art, and a report on an on-line class that was terrific. <http://suewalen.blogspot.com>

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## Bits and Pieces

I have a "Flynn Multi- Frame, complete with video and rods ready to attach your quilt top up to 5 1/2 Feet for \$35.00. Also have a 26" X 38" Cutting Mat - only used twice, for \$25.00. Contact Liz Bringham.

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## Priority: Alzheimer's Quilts, Round 2 – Kim Jalette

As of the writing of this newsletter, quilts made by Nimble Fingers members and donated to the AAQI for auction/sale have raised over \$1,500 for research. We should be very proud of these tangible results, but there is more we can do. Because we had such a great response to the first call for quilts, I am very happy to be Temporary Quilt Goddess for yet another collection effort. If you are interested in making a quilt for donation, please e-mail me. I will send you a registration form and a link to the rules and other information on the AAQI website that you may find helpful.

We'd like to have **two** collection target dates: the June meeting and the September meeting. According to Morna Golletz, Ami Simms will be designating quilts to be pre-priced and sold at the Houston quilt show this fall. Depending on how many quilts Ami receives, her deadline may be earlier than our Sept. meeting. If so, our quilts sent in earlier might be included in the Houston group.

So, please consider participating in this very worthy effort. All of those who have been touched by this terrible disease, including my family, thank you. Any questions, please contact me.

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## Committee Chairs – contact these people to volunteer or get information:

Current Events:	Ann Plunkett
Historian:	Susan Sellers
Hospitality:	Carole Auth, Karen Cyr, Nancy Sharp
Library:	Chris Ritcher
Membership:	Mila Haberman, Mary Jo Haczewski, Liz Brigham
Mini Groups:	Jane Oden
Newsletter:	Kim Jalette
Programs:	Susan Sellers, Carol Clanton, Cheryl Layman, Nancy Rose Opeka, Jill Ruspi, Julie Taylor
Quilt Consortium:	Elizabeth Davison
Quilting Bee:	Mary Campbell
Quilting for Others:	Margaret Natof, Mary Moore Payne
Retreat:	Anne Datko
Sunshine:	Betty Ford
Website:	Jane Van Horn
Welcoming:	Jane Oden

All telephone numbers, snail mail and e-mail addresses can be found in the Membership Directory. Copies are available from the Membership Chair.

**Please notify Mila Haberman, Membership Chair, with any changes in home address/phone number and/or e-mail address.**

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### **SNOW AND/OR INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY:**

***If Montgomery County Public Schools are operating on a delayed opening schedule (either one or two hour delay), the Nimble Fingers meeting will go on as scheduled (10 am at the Potomac Community Center). If Montgomery County Public Schools are closed, then the Nimble Fingers meeting will be cancelled.***